

Book Reviewer's Guide

Military Review publishes book reviews on assignment only. If you would like to be considered as a potential reviewer, send a copy of your c.v. along with a letter indicating your specific areas of interest to the Editor at the address at the bottom of this page.

Military Review publishes reviews of books provided for that purpose by the publishers. The Editor can normally offer no prior assurance as to whether or when a particular review will be published. The reviewer retains the book in any event.

The review's purpose is to inform readers of the publication of a book of professional interest, to briefly tell what the book is about, and to provide a concise evaluation of the book by a qualified observer.

Reviews should answer the following questions:

- What type of book is it (biography, anthology, history, monograph, etc.)?
- What does the book say?
- How authoritative is it?
- What are its special attractions, deficits, or other features? If it has flaws, point them out candidly.
- Is the book worthwhile and relevant to the defense community? If not, say so.

Reviews should be written with spirit and verve--maybe even occasional wit. Do not bore the reader.

As a reviewer, you should initially decide whether a book deserves a major review (300-400 words) or a shorter "Pass in Review" (150-200 words). You may even decide the book is poorly written or you feel it has no application for *Military Review's* audience. If so, please call or write the features editor with your decision rationale.

Remember, an adverse review requires specifics. If you challenge the style, content, authority or objectivity of a book, back it up with examples and facts. We insist on printing quality reviews, but this does not necessarily mean we print only laudatory ones. We have an obligation to warn readers about books that stir high expectations but promise more than they deliver.

The review should be typed, double-spaced (one side of sheet only), amply margined, and carefully edited. Reviews may be transmitted as electronic files by email or on a floppy disk. Identify the operating system and the word processing program used. Do not submit original material by fax. Return the review within 45-60 days.

The Editor reserves the right to edit and abridge reviews.

Include in the review heading the title, author, number of pages, publisher, date and price of the book. Also include your name and a brief credential or two establishing your authority to review the book. Sample heading:

Memoirs of Hope: Renewal and Endeavor. By Charles de Gaulle. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 1980; rpt. 1996. 376 pages. \$15.95 (paper). Reviewed by Colonel Roger J. Jones, author of *Postwar Politics of France* and Director of National Security Studies, US Army War College.

To Submit Reviews or For More Information Contact:

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Military Review

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